



Pierre Elks Lodge 1953 - PO Box 292 - Pierre, SD 57501

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## **Pierre Elks Lodge #1953 Distributes Community Grants to Missouri Shores, Ranch Ministries**

PIERRE — Pierre Elks Lodge #1953 has a long-standing history of enriching lives in the Pierre community. This year is no different.

Elks Lodge #1953 applied for and received \$8,500 from the Elks National Foundation. The Foundation awards thousands of dollars each year to local lodges as grants to support organizations that help individuals and their families.

Earlier this month, Lodge members awarded \$6,500 in grants to two local nonprofits, enabling the organizations to continue their mission of making a difference: Missouri Shores Domestic Violence Shelter and Ranch Ministries. Pierre Elks Lodge will disburse the remaining \$2,000 later this year.

Ranch Ministries will use their \$4,000 grant to retrofit a pontoon boat for handicapped and wheelchair bound guests.

Ranch Ministries is a venue for spiritual awakening, growth, and healing. Hundreds of men and women struggling with PTSD find refuge at the Ranch. The Ranch sits on 540 acres of South Dakota prairie, about 20 miles southeast of Pierre, and affords guests the opportunity to hunt, fish, target practice, horseback riding, and healing.

Missouri Shores mission is to protect and serve victims of domestic violence and sexual assault. They will use their \$2,500 grant to replace beds within the facility.

The mission of the ENF is to help Elks build stronger communities by investing in communities where Elks live and work.

“We provide tomorrow’s leaders, our youth, with lifelong skills; honor the Elks’ pledge to never forget our veterans; help the state Elks associations accomplish their charitable objectives; and fund projects that improve the quality of life in our local Elks communities” said Audry Ricketts, Lodge Secretary.

To learn more about the Elks and their mission visit: <https://www.elks.org/>.

Anyone interested in joining the local Elks Lodge, please visit:  
<https://www.elks.org/membership/default.cfm?source=Membership>.